



TOWN OF LEDYARD

Library Commission

Meeting Minutes

Bill Library
718 Colonel Ledyard Highway
Ledyard, Connecticut 06339

Gales Ferry Library
18 Hurlbutt Road
Gales Ferry, Connecticut 06335

Chair
John Bolduc

Regular Meeting

Monday, September 16, 2024

7:00 PM

Bill Library

Bill Library

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Bolduc called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. at the Bill Library.

II. ROLL CALL

Present Chair John Bolduc
Commissioner Ellin Grenger
Commissioner Barbara Candler
Commissioner Ralph Hightower
Commissioner Rebecca Nash
Commissioner Elizabeth Rumery
Commissioner Rolf Racich
Commissioner Peter Diette

In addition, the following were present:
Jennifer Smith - Library Director

III. RESIDENTS & PROPERTY OWNERS COMMENTS

None.

IV. PRESENTATIONS / INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. Commission members resignation

Resignation letter, effective immediately, from Brian Cronin.
Retirement letter, at end of term, from Rebecca Nash.
If Cynthia Wright is still interested, she would be the 6th appointed Democrat. The next Commissioner will need to be unaffiliated or a registered Republican per state statutes.

V. MEMBER COMMENTS

None.

VI. REPORTS

1. Treasurer's Report

Mr. Hightower presented the June, July, and August Treasurer's reports. A slight adjustment will be made to the August report showing the donation deposit of \$230 into the Library Commission fund rather than the Either Library fund. There were no questions.

2. Director's Report

Ms. Smith presented the September Director's report.

Library News:

- Alyssa Drake accepted another position so our Assistant Librarian I - Adult Services position is currently vacant. The job has been posted since mid-August. We are reviewing applications and hope to begin interviews in the next week or two.
- Summer Reading went very well again this year (flyer attached with final numbers including Adults, Teens, and Children).
 - Based on our (50+) Summer Reading survey results, 100% of responders felt welcome at the library, 95% got help from the library, and 96% plan to take part after summer.
- We are grateful to Ledyard Rotary, Ledyard Lions, and New London Kiwanis for their grant funding which has been used to start Children's Read Along collections in both buildings. Although this new collection of Wonderbooks has only been available for a few weeks, it is already extremely popular with our young library patrons. Parents and caregivers alike also love the screen free, read aloud option which helps their children follow along while they see and hear the words on the page. This combination of print and audio together improves vocabulary, word recognition, and phonological awareness.
- Staff have been busy cataloging and processing the items for the new Toy Library. This grant funded collection was created in collaboration with Traveling Toys Inc. with generous funding from the Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut. Items will live at both library buildings and should be ready for ribbon cutting in the next few months!

Building News:

- A new ADA circulation/information desk will be installed at Bill Library between September 19-20. Gales Ferry Library will be open on Friday, September 20 between 9:00-5:00 p.m. and Bill Library will be closed. This project was fully funded by the American Library Association Libraries Transforming Communities - Round 2 grant.
- Bill Library - painting completed on the south side of building and front railings.
- Bill Library - fire panel needs to be replaced after the transformer explosion in August fried the system. Install is scheduled for Thursday, September 19.
- Gales Ferry Library - new front porch pillars have been installed and look so much better.
- Gales Ferry Library - a small shelving unit was removed to open up the main floor area and make it more accessible for programming.

Town News:

- A new Human Resources Director for the town will start on Monday, September 16.

3. Investment Working Group

Mr. Bolduc said the Investment accounts continue to do well. Report provided through June 30, 2024.

4. Consortium Working Group

Rolf Racich will succeed Brian Cronin as Chair.

5. Friends of the Ledyard Library

Mr. Bolduc reported that the Bill Library annual book sale made about \$3,000 this year and did very well. Member night was Friday, August 30 and the sale ended on Friday, September 6, 2024. Thank you to all volunteers!

VII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**1. Motion to approve the regular meeting minutes of the Library Commission meeting from June 17, 2024.**

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Rolf Racich

SECONDER: Peter Diette

AYE 5 Bolduc Grenger Hightower Racich Diette

ABSTAIN 3 Candler Nash Rumery

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

None.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

None.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Bolduc moved the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Ms. Nash.

The meeting adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

VOTE: 8-0 Approved and so declared

The next Library Commission meeting is scheduled for October 21, 2024 at the Gales Ferry Library.

Respectively Submitted,

John Bolduc
Commission Chair

DISCLAIMER: Although we try to be timely and accurate these are not official records of the Town.

